

CLAIMS

I claim:

- 1        1. A fishing rod strike sensor, comprising:
  - 2            a sensor having an electrical characteristic that varies as  
3            the sensor flexes;
  - 4            means for attaching said sensor to a fishing rod such that  
5            said electrical characteristic varies as the fishing rod flexes;
  - 6            an alarm signaling device;
  - 7            an electrical circuit in electrical connection with said  
8            sensor, the circuit defining a first threshold, the circuit  
9            having an output that is activated when said electrical  
10          characteristic exceeds said first threshold, the output being in  
11          electrical connection with said alarm signaling device;
  - 12          means for adjusting said first threshold; and
  - 13          an electrical power source in electrical connection with  
14          said electrical circuit.

- 1        2. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 1,  
2           further comprising:

- 3            a second threshold defined by said circuit, said output  
4            being activated when said electrical characteristic falls  
5            outside of said first and second thresholds; and
- 6            means for adjusting said second threshold.

1       3. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 2,  
2 wherein said electrical circuit comprises a window comparator.

1       4. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said sensor is a flexible resistor having a resistance  
3 that varies as the flexible resistor flexes.

1       5. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 1,  
2 further comprising a housing, the alarm signaling device,  
3 electrical circuit, threshold adjusting means, and electrical  
4 power source being contained within said housing.

1       6. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 5,  
2 wherein said sensor attaching means comprises a bridge having  
3 forward and rearward ends, the rearward end supported by said  
4 housing and the forward end extending from said housing.

1       7. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 6,  
2 further comprising at least one clip disposed on the forward end  
3 of said bridge.

1       8. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 1,  
2 further comprising a fishing rod having a handle portion and a  
3 rod portion, wherein:

4             the alarm signaling device, electrical circuit, threshold  
5 adjusting means, and electrical power source are contained  
6 within said handle portion; and

7             said sensor attaching means comprises means for attaching  
8 said sensor to said rod portion.

1       9. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said alarm signaling device comprises a visual signaling  
3 device.

1       10. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said alarm signaling device comprises an audio signaling  
3 device.

1       11. A fishing rod strike sensor, comprising:  
2            a sensor having an electrical characteristic that varies as  
3            a mechanical force is applied to the sensor;  
4            means for attaching said sensor to a fishing rod such that  
5            said electrical characteristic varies as the fishing rod flexes;  
6            an alarm signaling device;  
7            an electrical circuit in electrical connection with said  
8            sensor, the circuit defining a first threshold, the circuit  
9            having an output that is activated when said electrical  
10          characteristic exceeds said first threshold, the output being in  
11          electrical connection with said alarm signaling device;  
12          means for adjusting said first threshold; and  
13          an electrical power source in electrical connection with  
14          said electrical circuit.

1       12. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 11,  
2       further comprising:  
3            a second threshold defined by said circuit, said output  
4       being activated when said electrical characteristic falls  
5       outside of said first and second thresholds; and  
6       means for adjusting said second threshold.

1       13. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 12,  
2       wherein said electrical circuit comprises a window comparator.

1       14. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 11,  
2 wherein said sensor is a force sensor having a resistance that  
3 varies as a mechanical force is applied to the sensor.

1       15. The fishing rod strike sensor according to claim 11,  
2 further comprising a housing, the sensor, alarm signaling  
3 device, electrical circuit, threshold adjusting means, and  
4 electrical power source being contained within said housing.